



Winner of 9, 2015 National Native Media Awards

Aug. 1, 2015 "Hiyo Rakko" Big Harvest

Vol. 45, Issue 15

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#MCNVOTE2015

A Mvskoke Media production ~ The official tribal newspaper of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

# MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

## 5 o'Clock Somewhere Bar opens at RSC

### Ceremony held for first portion of Buffet themed expansion

Darren DeLaune/MNN Reporter

TULSA, Okla. — A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held July 2 for the 5 o'Clock Somewhere Bar at River Spirit Casino in Tulsa, in what Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger called a 'pre-game meal' for RSC development along the Arkansas River.

"We are being recognized for what we are doing economically," Tiger said. "We are creating more

and more jobs for our citizens with this expansion."

The event marks the first official finished a piece of the \$329 million Margaritaville themed project at RSC.

"It's the first time everyone will get a glimpse of what to expect when the rest of our Margaritaville at River Spirit expansion opens," RSC General Manager Jerry Floyd said.

Somewhere - 2



Darren DeLaune/MNN

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger (right) and River Spirit Casino General Manager Jerry Floyd (left) cut a ribbon July 2 to officially open the new 5 o'Clock Somewhere Bar located within RSC in Tulsa, Okla.

### Schedule changed for 2015 Candidate Forum

Principal chief portion moved to 10 a.m.

Mvskoke Media/Release

OKMULGEE, Okla. — Mvskoke Media will host the 2015 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Candidate Forum Saturday, Aug. 15 at the Mvskoke Dome in Okmulgee.

The principal chief portion has been rescheduled to 10 a.m. since incumbent MCN Second Chief Louis Hicks is running unopposed, which affords him an immediate victory per the MCN Election Board.

Refreshments will be provided during the event.

The forum is a service provided to Muscogee (Creek) citizens to learn more about the individuals they will be voting for and offers an opportunity for principal chief candidates to inform citizens of what qualities, experience and ideas they will bring to the position if elected.

Candidates will respond to questions in rotating order as directed by the moderator. Candidates will have two minutes to respond to each question.

**Citizens will have the opportunity to submit questions for consideration to MCN Media Coordinator Jessica McBride at: [jmcbride@mcn-nsn.gov](mailto:jmcbride@mcn-nsn.gov) until Wednesday, Aug. 12 at 5 p.m.**

**WHAT:** 2015 MCN Principal Chief Candidate Forum

**WHEN:** Saturday, Aug. 15, 10 a.m.

**WHERE:** Mvskoke Dome, 555 Tank Farm Road, Okmulgee, OK.



Kyia Monahwee/Intern

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger gave an update on MCN July 10 during the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes quarterly session at The Grand Casino Hotel and Resort in Shawnee, Okla.

## Housing, ICWA resolutions passed during Five Tribes session

### Tiger gives update on MCN to Inter-Tribal Council

Darren DeLaune/MNN Reporter  
Sterling Cospier/MNN Editor

SHAWNEE, Okla. — A quarterly session of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes was held July 9-10, at The Grand Casino Hotel Resort in Shawnee.

Seminole Nation hosted the event.

During the general session July 10, updates were given by: Oklahoma Native Liaison Chris Bengé; Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office, Acting Director Eddie Streater and Indian Health Service, Area Director Kevin Meeks, on their respective entities.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Principal Chief George Tiger also gave an update on MCN along with the other ITC leaders about their respective Nations.

He talked about the College of Muscogee Nation adding a bookstore to their institution and the annual MCN Festival held in June.

"All the reports that we received from our Tourism and Recreation Department, it was the biggest and best Festival we have ever

had," Tiger said. "By counts, over the three day period, we had over 55,000 people that came to our Festival."

Tiger also spoke about the new MRI building at the MCN Medical Center in Okmulgee and the new 5 o'Clock Somewhere Bar at MCN River Spirit Casino in Tulsa.

"That is one of the

ITC - 3

### Committee, bill, passage and introduction types explained

Amanda Rutland/Media Specialist

OKMULGEE, Okla. — Do you ever wonder how something becomes law at Muscogee (Creek) Nation or how legislation gets to the MCN National Council meetings?

Council Speaker Thomas Yahola explained the process during a June 19 informative

## The life of MCN legislation: from idea to law

meeting for citizens living outside the MCN jurisdiction.

In order to understand the process since the federally implemented self-determination period, we must start at the beginning. The Council is one of the three branches of government as established by the 1979 MCN Constitution.

The 16-member body is made of two elected representatives

from each of the eight tribal districts.

Each representative also sits on one of three sub-committees: the Health, Education and Welfare Committee (HEW); the Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee (LNC) and the Business, Finance and Justice Committee (BFJ).

HEW is more than health and education as the name implies.

It also oversees certain process involving citizen services such as social services pertaining to housing, the Election Board, Veterans Affairs, Emergency Management, the Citizenship Board and the chartered communities.

LNC deals with matters such as historic and cultural

Legislation - 2

### Pursuit of stolen vehicle damages MCN property

#### Community center taking steps to repair

Chelsie Rich/Project Specialist

DEWAR, Okla. — Members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Dewar Indian Community Center are contemplating how to deal with damages caused to their property by a high-speed pursuit on the evening of June 24 in

Pursuit - 4



## LEGISLATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

preservation and physical land, to those including and similar to environmental services as well as churches, ceremonial grounds, transportation, wildlife, housing construction and more.

Some of the affairs BfJ is involved in are: budget approvals, business development, gaming management, the Trade and Commerce Authority, Lighthorse Tribal Police Department and the Attorney General's Office.

The speaker makes sure legislation is composed properly. If any corrections need to be made, the speaker makes notes and returns it to the submitting party.

Any Muscogee (Creek) citizen or MCN program/department can propose legislation to a representative for sponsorship.

Proposals from MCN programs or departments under leadership of the executive branch must be accompanied by a cover letter from the principal chief before reaching the representative.

Once the speaker approves the bill, it is assigned a legislation number, which is titled by the fiscal year and the sequence in which it is proposed. An example is a bill proposed in FY 2011 that is the 20th bill of that year would be NCA, NCR or TR 11-020.

A tribal resolution (TR) is

a statement of the Nation and a National Council resolution (NCR) is a statement of the Council. A National Council Amendment (NCA) is a law. Yahola said NCAs are mostly appropriations.

After the speaker sends the bill to a clerk to forward to the appropriate committee chairperson, it is placed on the committee meeting agenda. The committee discusses the bill and makes any changes they deem necessary, known as amendments.

"The public is invited to be there for all the discussion. So, it is an open meeting," Yahola said. "Other Council members who are not committee members are given a time for their input."

The planning session is where the entire Council meets and votes on what will be on the agenda for the official monthly Council meeting.

The next step for legislation approval is a signature by the principal chief. Once it is sent to the chief's office, three things can happen: the chief signs the bill and it becomes law, the chief doesn't sign it and it becomes law after 10 days or the chief vetoes the bill.

If the bill is vetoed, it will be returned to the Council to be voted on again. In order for the veto to be overridden and the bill enacted as law, two-thirds of the Council has to vote in favor of it.

For more information, contact the Council at: 918-758-1410.

## Author 'blessed' to tell Phillip Coon story



Submission  
Muscogee (Creek) veteran and survivor of the World War II Bataan Death March, Phillip Coon

### Biography on Bataan Death March survivor completed

Gary Fife/*Radio Specialist*

OKMULGEE, Okla. — What was it like to tell the story of a man who survived the World War II Bataan Death March?

According to author and publisher Sherry Kast, parts of completing 'A Soldier's Silent Prayer' were difficult and parts were not because, "he was very easy to work with."

It all started, Kast said, when she attended the Women's College World Series for softball where the University of Oklahoma was competing. The late Muscogee (Creek) veteran Phillip Coon was honored during the game.

"Just absolutely amazed by his story and everybody was just cheering and they wouldn't stop cheering and standing for him," she said. "Even later, when he moved through the crowd, people would just stand up and cheer as he walked past them. I just decided, I'm going to write his story."

The rest, in a manner of speaking, was history.

"I made contact with his son, Michael," she said. "Two years later, we've got the book."

Coon was one of the survivors of a march to a Japanese prison camp after U.S. forces were defeated in the Philippines during the early days of World War II in 1942.

American and Filipino prisoners-of-war were forced to march 65 miles in tropical heat

**"In his story of ultimate forgiveness, it's even changed my life"**

— Sherry Kast  
author of 'A Soldier's Silent Prayer'

with brutal treatment from the Japanese guards. Upon completing the trek, Coon was imprisoned and forced into slave labor by his captors.

"I interviewed him after he went to Japan, 70 years later," Kast said. "He came full circle and there was forgiveness for the Japanese people that had stole his youth while he was in the war."

Kast feels her interviews net-

ted elements for his biography, which sets it apart from that of others she has written.

"I think in my research, more than anything is that I got information about his childhood. Whereas, a lot of the other stories that I researched started when he was at school and when he went off to war," Kast said.

Hearing Coon recall the memories of brutality was not easy for her.

"Some of the soldiers in their minds, they were going crazy," Kast said. "They were dying and Phillip looked back in history and his ancestors and he would remember the songs from the ceremonial grounds when he was a little boy and Christian songs that would run through his mind as he went through the death march."

Coon passed away June 23, 2014 at the age of 95.

Kast owns the small publishing house, Kast Publishing LLC, so she said printing the book was much easier.

"It took about a year," she said. "Every evening. It was a pretty quick turn-around, but it was every evening to make sure that it happened."

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council unanimously approved NCA 14-070 during the May 17, 2014 regular session, appropriating \$7,500 to Kast Publishing to fund the biography.

Now that the book is available, Kast is working to sell it.

"They can go to Amazon and order it on Amazon. It's avail-

able in paperback and it's also available for Kindle (the e-book reader service), so they can order it through

Amazon. If they have any questions they can also go to my website: KastPublishing.com."

Kast plans several signings and a tour to promote sales.

She was pleased to make Coon's story available.

"He went through such dark days," Kast said. "He depended on God to get him through those days. He depended on his culture, his ancestors. In his story of ultimate forgiveness, it's even changed my life."

**The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council unanimously approved NCA 14-070 during the May 17, 2014 regular session, appropriating \$7,500 to Kast Publishing to fund 'A Soldier Silent Prayer.'**

*Muscogee (Creek) veteran Phillip Coon was a survivor of the Bataan Death March, the 65 mile trek to a Japanese prison camp after U.S. forces were defeated in the Philippines during the early days of World War II in 1942.*

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**ITC**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

phases to our big project, Margaritaville,” Tiger said. “We are expecting to open that, Labor Day weekend next year.”

Tiger said the project has provided nearly 900 jobs.

During the session, ITC passed the following resolutions unanimously:

- Resolution 15-19: Re-affirming the position of ITC in opposition of and communicating the discriminatory acts for the U.S. Congress enacted on Aug. 4, 1947; the effects of the act still subject the members of the tribal governments to the irreversible loss of land.

The mentioned legislation, also known as the 47 Act, affects the restricted land of the FCT and allows said land to be adversely possessed. This means another party can seize control and title of land they do not own by ‘squatting’ on or using it for 15 years.

The 47 Act stipulates that restricted land falls under Oklahoma state jurisdiction, and can be lost to adverse possession.

The title of trust land is held by the U.S. first, for the benefit of the individual or entity listed on the title document.

Like trust land, restricted land is not taxed. However, the individual and not the U.S. government holds title.

- Resolution 15-20: Supporting clarifying language for the Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Programs in the reauthorization of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st century (MAP-21) Act.

According to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

website, the Federal Transit Administration announced the availability of approximately \$5 million in funding provided by the Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program.

The primary purpose of these competitively selected grants is to support planning, capital and, in limited circumstances, operating assistance for tribal public transit services.

- Resolution 15-21: To preserve the Universal Service Fund Lifeline and Link Up Programs.

According to the Federal Communications Commission website, Lifeline is a government benefit program that provides discounts on monthly telephone service for eligible low-income subscribers to help ensure that they can connect to the nation’s communication networks, find jobs, access health care services, connect with family and their children’s schools and call for help in an emergency.

The Link Up program provides qualified residents of federally recognized tribal lands funds to pay the activation fee or installation charges for Lifeline services.

- Resolution 15-22: Regarding indirect cost rate negotiation changes.

Accountingcoach.com defines an indirect cost as an expense that is not directly traceable to a department, product, activity, customer, etc. As a result, indirect costs and expenses are often allocated to the department, product, etc.

For example, a manufacturing department that molds plastic has some costs that are directly traceable to it, such as the wages and fringe benefits of the direct labor working exclusively in that department.

However, the heat for the entire building appears only on one utility bill. The heating bill is an indirect cost to the molding department. Generally it will be assigned to all departments based on the number of square feet each department occupies.

According to the U.S. Department of the Interior website, an indirect cost rate is a tool for determining the proportion of indirect costs each program should bear.

An indirect cost negotiation agreement is a document that formalizes the indirect cost rate negotiation process.

- Resolution 15-23: In support of the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience (NATIVE) Act.

According to an article by ‘Indian Country Today Media Network,’ The NATIVE Act was created to, “enhance and integrate Native American tourism, empower Native American communities, increase coordination and collaboration between federal tourism assets and expand heritage and cultural tourism opportunities in the United States.”

The act would, among other things, get federal agencies like the Departments of Commerce and Interior to consult with Indian tribes and the Native American community on their inclusion in federal tourism activities.

- Resolution 15-24: Endorsing and supporting the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute for Justice Violence Against Indian Women National Baseline Study.

According to the National Institute of Justice website, the NBS is the first nationally representative study of American

Indian and Alaska Native women living in Indian Country and Alaska Native Villages.

AI and AN women will be interviewed to assess their experiences with violence and victimization, health and wellness, community crime, service needs, and help seeking behaviors and outcomes, as well as their opinions about public safety.

- Resolution 15-25: In support of the Indian Child Welfare Act (25 CFR 23) and opposing the actions of parties to weaken and dilute ICWA in its present form.

ICWA is a federal law that Congress passed in 1978, which mandates that Native foster and adoption homes are given precedent when finding a place for Native children in the system, to ensure they are raised in tribal culture.

A ruling in the federal court case known to the public as ‘Baby Veronica,’ turned out in favor of a non-Native family who had adopted a baby eligible for citizenship with the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma through her father, CN citizen Dusten Brown.

The defense in the court case stated that the father of the child mistakenly signed away his parental rights to the birth mother, unaware that the child was going to be adopted.

The ruling has raised concerns over the legal precedent set by this case and how it will affect the potency of ICWA in the future.

- Resolution 15-26: In support of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and the full exercise of tribal court civil jurisdiction in a case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

According to Indianz.com, Dollar General operates a store on trust land within the tribe’s

reservation. The tribe issued a license to the business, whose manager is accused of sexually assaulting a minor who was working there as part of a youth training program.

The minor’s parents sued Dollar General and the manager in tribal court seeking at least \$2.5 million in damages. The company, as a non-Indian entity, refused to submit to the court’s jurisdiction.

Generally, tribes can’t exercise authority over non-Indians but the Supreme Court decision in Montana v. U.S. lays out two exceptions. One for ‘consensual relationships’ and another for activities that threaten the political integrity, economic security or the health or welfare of a tribe.

The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals determined that the ‘consensual relationships’ exception applied to Dollar General.

The company asked the Supreme Court to overturn the decision in June 2014.

- Resolution 15-27: To support the nominations of Catherine Forman-Gray, Cherokee Nation citizen to the U.S. Marshals Museum Board of Directors.

- Resolution 15-28: Regarding the reauthorization of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act.

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development website, NAHASDA reorganized the system of housing assistance provided to Native Americans through HUD by eliminating several separate programs of assistance and replacing them with a block grant program.

The Choctaw Nation is scheduled to host the next quarterly session Oct. 8-9.



THE UNIVERSITY of

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## Oklahoma Study of Native American Pain Risk (OK-SNAP)

### Healthy Research Participants Needed



**The University of Tulsa, Psychophysiology Laboratory for Affective Neuroscience is conducting a University of Tulsa IRB-approved research study aimed at assessing pain processing in Native Americans.**

**The goal of this study is to identify potential markers of risk for chronic pain in healthy (currently pain-free) Native American individuals.**

**To participate, you must NOT\***

- **Currently have chronic pain or take pain medications**
- **Have high blood pressure or take antihypertensive medications**
- **Take antidepressant or anti-anxiety medications**


**\*Additional eligibility criteria do apply.**

**Investigators:**  
**Dr. Jamie Rhudy & Dr. Joanna Shadlow**



Oklahoma Study of Native American Pain Risk

OK-SNAP



**For more information call:**  
**918-631-2175 or 918-631-3565**  
**You may also visit our website at:** <http://orgs.utulsa.edu/psychophys>  
**or on Facebook at:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Oklahoma-Study-of-Native-American-Pain-Risk/465628426873916>

**This study is safe and non-invasive. Participants must be able to attend 2 testing sessions (approximately 4-5.5 hours/sessions). \$200 compensation (\$100/day) is provided.**

**The TU Psychophysiology Laboratory for Affective Neuroscience is dedicated to identifying mechanisms that contribute to and/or maintain chronic pain, and to developing non-invasive methods for assessing individuals at risk for developing chronic pain conditions.**



### Citizen shares personal School Clothing Program experience

Assistance available as students begin new year

Darren DeLaune/MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE, Okla. — Most working class people experience hardships throughout their lives. Everyday expenses often contribute to this.

For example: rent or a mortgage, utilities, buying groceries and other bills to name a few. What if you had children? With that factored in, these costs can double or triple.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program can help with this.

Muscogee (Creek) citizen, Jordan Brown said the program has done just that for her and her son.

“I am able to get his school clothes and with clothes and shoes nowadays being more expensive, this program helps relieve some of the stress that most families would have,” Brown said.

Brown, who works and is a full-time student, knows the pressure that a lot of families experience while trying to balance a budget.

“Having this program has helped me out financially,” Brown said. “The School Clothing Program benefits all the families that they help.”

SCP began taking school clothing applications May 1 from families seeking financial assistance to purchase clothing for the 2015-2016 school year and will accept them year round.

“We will be taking applications up until April 30, 2016,” SCP Supervisor Robbin Hayes said.

An MCN citizenship card is required for each child and as available, whichever one of their parents or guardians who are citizens. CDIB cards will not be accepted. Applications must be completed entirely.

All children will need to provide a school verification form and this sheet is attached to the application.

Report cards will not be accepted.

“There is one difference to the school clothing application for students who are in the ninth to twelfth grade,” Hayes said.

The proper school official has to verify that the child was enrolled for the previous full school year.



MNN File Photo

“We have had some situations where the student will get the money and then drop out of school,” Hayes said. “The following year they will re-enroll, get the money and then drop out again.”

Hayes said that the number of students that the SCP program helps increases every year.

“Last year, we helped over 11,500 children,” she said. “The number goes up every year so we expect that to get higher.”

Hayes wants to remind parents about the ‘Release of Information’ page in the application that has the two check boxes.

The page needs to be completed and one of the boxes needs to be checked.

“We have to have that page completed,” she said. “If it is not completed and not one of those boxes checked, we consider that an incomplete form and it will be sent back to the applicant.”

She also said that only original receipts will be accepted for the required expense reporting.

“The receipts will need to be turned back in by April 30, 2016,” Hayes said.

\$200 is given per child and the whole amount needs to be spent, only on their clothing.

“We cannot accept the cash that you did not spend,” Hayes said.

Applications are available online at: [www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov](http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov) or by calling the office at: 918-549-2473.

They can be mailed to: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447; faxed to: 918-549-2478 or emailed to: [schoolclothing@mcn-nsn.gov](mailto:schoolclothing@mcn-nsn.gov).

“We still have a dropbox on the porch area should they need to drop it off after hours,” Hayes said.

The applications can also be mailed or dropped off at the Southern Regional Office at: 333 S. Washita, Wetumka, OK 74883 and the Jenks Riverwalk Office at: 715 W. Main, Ste. D Jenks, OK 74037.

zens in the community through the MCN Elderly Nutrition Program.

“I wanted to make sure we were able to serve food for our elders,” Jones said.

Phil Booker, MCN Risk Management Manager was at the scene the following day accessing damages to the community center fence and gate.

“Advising Mr. Jones on what we’ll do and probably what the tribe will end up needing to do to seek return on the damages,” Booker said.

Booker documented the damages by taking photographs and is responsible for checking with the insurance company to see what will be covered.

“We’ll probably end up turning this over to the attorney general’s office,” Booker said.

Employees of MCN Housing Department came to the site to clear debris and tear down the remaining part of the gate to ensure safety.

The community plans to rebuild.

“We want to make sure it’s brought back to the original flavor that it had,” Jones said. “It’s important to the community so it’s important to us.”

MvskokeMedia

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### PURSUIT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dewar.

Reports indicate that the Henryetta Police Department responded to a call involving a stolen white 2011 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup truck.

HPD began a pursuit of the stolen vehicle, which started in Henryetta and led police down SH 266 in Dewar at speeds reaching 100 miles an hour.

The truck went off the road on the east side of Dewar causing it to hit a steel fence and gate then flipping end over end.

The suspect, 30-year-old Daniel Nole was cut from the vehicle and transported to St. John's Hospital in Tulsa by Life Flight.

“We have damages to the properties here. We want to take care of that. That was my main concern,” said Floyd Jones, MCN Community Research and Development Director.

CRD provides MCN communities with training and technical assistance while working to increase community participation.

The center provides lunch to Muscogee (Creek) senior citi-

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation

WETUMKA HEAD START

is accepting applications for the 2015-2016 school year.

Requirements for the program will include:

► Child turning 3 or 4 year olds before September 1st

► Income Verification (last year's income tax, pay stubs, W-2 form, TANF letter, SSI letter, or statement from employer)

► Citizenship or CDIB card (if applicable)

► Birth Certificate

► Immunization Record

► Child's medical card

If you need additional information, call Janice Birdcreek at (405) 452-1180 or stop by the Wetumka Head Start at 333 South Washita, Wetumka Oklahoma.

We also have other Head Start Centers at Okmulgee (918) 758-1430, Checotah (918) 473-0605, Tulsa (918) 296-0357, Okemah (918) 623-2000, and Eufaula (918) 618-6220.



Rock Creek - Table Games - Electronic Games

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BETTY JO BEN

WELEETKA, Okla. — Betty Jo Ben was born April 20, 1944 in Tahlequah to Gladys Barnett and Wm. Haskell Brown. She is a full-blood citizen of Thlopth-locco Tribal Town, Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Betty Jo lived most of her life in Weleetka.

She lived with her one and only son and wife and beautiful grandchildren.

Betty had been honored by Christ Community Church of Weleetka. She liked watching the Sooners and the Oklahoma City Thunder with her grandchildren, she loved going to watch her grandchildren play sports and also loved painting and going to church to learn about Jesus Christ.

Betty Jo began her spiritual journey July 7, 2015.

Proceeding Betty in death is her: husband, Willy Ben; brother, James Maye's; father, Haskell Brown; mother, Gladys Barnett and grandson Terrance Rae Marshall.

She is survived by her: son and daughter Sonny and Tishanne Marshall; grandsons, Charles Marshall, Seth Marshall, Terrance Marshall and Chandler Marshall and granddaughter, Raeanne Marshall of Weleetka. Prayer services were set for July 10 at the Christ Community Church of Weleetka. Betty will feel comfort in knowing the Lord and savior and that we will see each other again. Services are under the direction of Donnie Williamson and Sparden Funeral Home.

-Mvto, the Marshall family.

WALTER BERRYHILL



OKLAHOMA CITY — Walter Sammie Berryhill, a resident of Oklahoma City and former Henryetta area resident, passed away Saturday, June 20, 2015 in Oklahoma City at the age of 85. Walter was born Jan. 6, 1930 in Okmulgee to John Berryhill and Amy Randall Berryhill.

Walter grew up around Henryetta and attended Henryetta Public Schools. As a teenager, Walter joined the U.S. Army and faithfully served from 1947-1953.

Walter held a number of jobs but was a successful businessman with all of them, including his considerable experience with real estate.

He was a member of the South Lindsey Baptist Church in Oklahoma City for approximately 25 years. Walter maintained an extremely active lifestyle. He enjoyed playing golf, served as the assistant baseball coach at Barnes Elementary School in Midwest City, and he exercised daily.

He is preceded in death by his: mother and father; brothers, Richard Berryhill and Almer Berryhill and four sisters, Amy Sue Berryhill, Mary Coon, Christine Harjo and Lucille Bear.

Walter is survived by his: sister, Dicey Barnett of Henryetta;

special friend, Rowena Williford of Oklahoma City; a host of nieces and nephews as well as a strong church family and many other extended family and good friends.

Viewing for Walter was held at Integrity Funeral Service June 22. A wake service was held at Integrity Chapel with Rev. Tim Lowe and Rev. Wallace Gambler officiating.

Funeral services for Walter were held at Integrity Chapel June 24 with Rev. Jerry Connell and Rev. Wallace Gambler officiating. Internment followed at Berryhill Family Cemetery in Henryetta under the direction of Integrity Funeral Service.

ELOUISE HARJO



OKMULGEE, Okla. — After a long battle with cancer, Elouise Edwina Harjo passed from this life July 3, 2015 at her home surrounded by her family at the age of 74.

She was born Jan. 20, 1941 to Amos Harjo Sr. and Louise McCosar Harjo Herrod in Holdenville.

She was raised five miles north of Calvin over the old bridge near Tookparfka Baptist Church and later moved to Holdenville. She was known to many family and friends as Wana and was the oldest of 13 kids.

One of her biggest memories as a nurse was the day her and her co-worker and friend, Paula closed the doors at the Wetumka General Hospital for the last time, as it never re-opened again. She worked there for over 23 years of her life.

Preceding her in death are her: parents, step-father, Robert Herrod; sisters, Katie Kincaid and Gladysteen Herrod and brothers, Jimmy Frank Harjo, Lewis Wayne Harjo, and Richard Leon Herrod.

Surviving family are her: daughter, Karen Dawn Fish and husband Anthony of Holdenville; her one and only grandchild that brought great happiness and laughter to her, Dakota Matthew Fish of Holdenville; sisters, Zula Herrod of Ada, Minnie Herrod of Wetumka, Frances Herrod of Ada, Leona Herrod and Estelle Herrod of Calvin; brothers, Amos Harjo Jr. of Cyril and John Herrod of Ada; 27 nieces and nephews, 40 great-nieces and nephews and 17 great-great-nieces and nephews along with many cousins and friends.

Funeral services were held July 7 with Rev. Eddie Gooden officiating.

Pallbearers were: Anthony Fish, Mitchell Harjo, Eric Harjo, Joshua Harrison, Robert Harrison and Nathan Herrod. Flower girls were her nieces.

Interment was at the Herrod Family Cemetery in Calvin. Services are under the direction of Hudson-Phillips Funeral Home in Holdenville.

Online condolences to the family can be made at: [www.phillipsfuneralservice.com](http://www.phillipsfuneralservice.com).

An Online Guestbook is available at: [www.PhillipsFuneralService.com](http://www.PhillipsFuneralService.com).

MARGIE PHILPOTT

JOPLIN, Mo. — Margie Philpott was born Jan. 19, 1926 to Alvin Hodge Orcutt and Beatrice Lillian Olson in Tulsa, Okla. She passed early Monday morning, July 20, 2015, in Joplin. Margie married Leonard Philpott in 1943 and moved to Fairland, Okla.

They had four children and had a long and happy marriage until Leonard's passing in 1988. She dedicated her life to her husband and children.

She raised her children to go for what they want and that nothing is out of their reach.

Margie is preceded in death by her: parents, husband and daughter, Patricia Ford.

She is survived by her: daughters, Donna Smith and husband, Tim of Fairland and Margie McCutcheon and husband, Terry of Foster, Okla.; son, Bill Philpott and wife, Karen of Kimberling City; sisters, Fronnie Hampton of Jay, Okla., and Nancy of Fort Worth, Texas, along with 10 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and nine great-great grandchildren.

The family received friends July 22 at Brown-Winters Funeral Home Chapel in Fairland.

Graveside services were Thursday, July 23 at Hickory Grove Cemetery with Geoff Buffalo officiating. Casketbearers were: David Philpott, Steve Cline, Danny D. Dover, Calvin Garrett and Tony Poe.

Scholarship Foundation swings for education

Scholarship Foundation/Release

CHECOTAH, Okla. — The second annual 'Swing for Education' benefit golf tournament will be held Friday, Sept. 4 at the Fountainhead Creek Golf Course in Checotah.

The tournament was created by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Scholarship Foundation Program (HESFP) to raise money for scholarships to help Muscogee (Creek) students who attend post-secondary institutions.

Early registration is recommended. Teams who pre-register will receive a free t-shirt. The cost to play the four-person scramble is \$400 and includes lunch, cart and green fees.

Prizes will be awarded for first-third place teams, longest drive, closest to the pin and hole-in-one.

In the event of rain cancellation, the tournament will be rescheduled for Friday, Sept. 11.

HESFP is a non-profit organization initiated in 2013 to help advance the education of Muscogee (Creek) citizens by raising funds for scholarships. The foundation's activities are supported through donations by businesses and individuals.

All donations to the HESFP are tax deductible.

For more information about HESFP, visit: [www.creeknationfoundation.org](http://www.creeknationfoundation.org).

MNN DEADLINES

Aug. 15 — Aug. 7

Sept. 1 — Aug. 24

Sept. 15 — Sept. 8

Oct. 1 — Sept. 24

Oct. 15 — Oct. 7

Emvpanayv: 'One who tells a story'

Illegal aliens, the ‘no-show’ strikes again, Hollywood ‘wannabees?’

Gary Fife/Radio Specialist

According to a recent piece on the 'CBS News' website, in 2010, the famous scientist and physicist Steven Hawking said that, "alien life may not be friendly to humans."

He compared their potential arrival to that of Christopher Columbus' to the Americas, "which resulted in the deaths and enslavement of many Native Americans."

Hawking has joined a project to find life in outer space.

Well, bring 'em on. We got through one 'invasion,' I guess we could deal with another. According to an old and moldy joke: "Just don't make any treaties with them."

Hey, remember earlier this spring when I got my fur rubbed the wrong way when a big-shot fed was a 'no-show' on Mvskoke Radio?

Well, it seems this guy, Vince Logan, the Interior Department Special Trustee for American Indians pulled the same stunt, this time on Capitol Hill at Disneyland-on-the-Potomac.

Logan was supposed to appear before the U.S. Senate Indian Affairs Committee, according to Indianz.com. Again, at the last minute, Logan failed to show up and that poed committee member Senator John Barrasso (R-Wyoming).

(Whatsa matter, Vince, driver get lost again?)

Barrasso called the stunt, "unacceptable" and that it emphasized the need to get rid of the Special Trustee Office.

According to their federal website, the office is supposed to protect and preserve Indian assets and other financial wrangling on behalf of us poor Indins'. (Remember the Cobell settlement and what a great job that was?)

I don't know, but I ain't seen much coming out of that office.

Senator Barrasso—more power to ya in getting rid of another layer of useless federal bureaucracy.

Actor Adam Sandler is

trying to cover his backside over the latest exploitation of Native people and culture. National media are carrying the story that his latest fiasco, 'Ridiculous Six,' Sandler claims, is 'misunderstood' and the movie is '100 percent pro-American Indian.'

Besides insulting Native women, elders and culture, the movie has been accused of using 'Redface' on Indian actors to make them look more Indian. That's right, just like the term 'blackface' when make-up is used to darken a person's skin.

That's from a whistleblower that worked in the make-up department of the production. That practice is supposedly a 'no-no' since Hollywood has been blasted for doing that in films like 'The Jazz Singer' and a few others.

Currently, there are 39 federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma. Are you ready for four more?

Four groups have petitioned for federal recognition in the last dozen years.

The groups are the United Band of the Western Cherokee Nation in Moore; the Cheyenne Nation in Longdale; the United Chickamungwa Band in Wister; and one we've heard of, the Muscogee (Creek) Indian Freedmen Band in Moore.

(I don't know about you, but I haven't run across too many Chickamungwas lately.)

Federal rules on acknowledgement of groups desiring federal status have been undergoing some modification, so who knows whether they will make the list or not. No word on any decisions.

Elections are coming up and a large number of folks have filed for office. Remember, Mvskoke Media is holding forum for the principal chief candidates 10 a.m., Aug. 15 at the Mvskoke Dome in Okmulgee.

"In reality, there is no such thing as not voting: you either vote by voting, or you vote by staying home and tacitly doubling the value of some Diehard's vote."—David Foster Wallace, American contemporary author.

Later.

Man convicted in MCN District Court sought



MCN AG's Office/Release

OKMULGEE, Okla. — Daniel Ray Hawkins was convicted Oct. 13, 2014 in Muscogee (Creek) Nation case CF-14-24, of Possession of Controlled Dangerous Substance and Carrying a Firearm. At that time, he was sentenced to serve a term of three years in custody of the MCN Lighthorse Police Department.

He was convicted March 23, 2015 in MCN case CF-13-18, of one count of Aggravated Assault and one count of Battery. He was sentenced to serve a two-and-a-half year term in the custody of the MCN Lighthorse Police Department.

McIntosh County Jail after being convicted there of Assault and Battery on a Police Officer, Assault/Battery on Deputy, Prisoner Attempting to Place Body Fluid on Government Employee and Malicious Injury to Property.

The McIntosh County Jail made an error March 25, 2015 and released Hawkins to the streets when he finished his time there. Lighthorse was not notified of this error until June 22, 2015.

There are currently NO BOND Warrants issued through the MCN District Court. Hawkins is known to carry both knives and guns and should be considered armed and dangerous.

Anyone with information regarding his whereabouts are asked to contact MCN Lighthorse Police at: 918-732-7800 or their local law enforcement agency. Daniel Ray Hawkins: DOB: 7-23-83, HT: 5'10" WT: 200 lbs., Hair: Black — Eyes: Brown



# Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community and Tribal Events

## MVTO

Recently, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation awarded an emergency scholarship to me to assist with paying my spring tuition at the University of Central Oklahoma/Swansea University doctorate program.

In the last year, my uncle Raydean Robison and my cousin, Deanna Robison both passed away and MCN was very prompt in assisting with those funeral expenses.

Chief Tiger caught wind of the fundraiser and made a personal donation, which helped greatly.

There are no words that can adequately express my gratitude to my tribe. I am proud to be a Muscogee (Creek) citizen and thankful for all of the old ones who came before, fighting and working to maintain our culture and our existence.

Mvto!

Claudette Robertson,  
Oklahoma City  
Independent Historian/  
Grants Consultant  
Adjunct Professor, History  
Oklahoma City Community  
College  
405-826-2424

## MVTO

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to George Tiger our principal chief.

As a tribal member who lives outside the boundaries of our great Nation, it was nice to see the genuine interest Chief Tiger took out of his busy schedule recently for a fundraiser held here in Fort Worth, Texas. I was recently diagnosed with stage-four breast cancer, the type that moves very quickly. Unfortunately for me, I had to have a radical mastectomy to remove my left breast. During this time, as if things weren't bad enough, my house caught

on fire. Thank God, the damage was minimal with no injuries to my family. I was at my wits end I didn't know what I was going to do. That's when my friends and nieces decided to put on a fundraiser for me.

The benefit was a great success they raised over \$5000 for me I was truly humbled by the outcome, a great blessing and again Chief Tiger thank you for thinking about me. I'm a long way away from home but it's certainly good to know that I have a Chief that is concerned about me and is willing to help.

- MVTO,  
Helen (Hardrige) Jones

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship  
of the Person and Estate of:  
S.C.S., III

Case No. GD-2015-12

A Minor Child.

SERVICE OF SUMMONS  
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Malinda Evelyn Michelle Priester and Stuart Collin Snyder, II

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2015-12, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: S.C.S., III, minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor child.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in their *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 15 day of July, 2015.

Donna Beaver, Court Clerk  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,  
Okmulgee District  
By: Stephanie Bear  
(Deputy)

## Mvskoke Language Preservation Program

### VERBS — Ending with etv

**HOMPETV — To eat**

**LETKETV — To run**

**TASKETV — To jump**

**NUCETV — To sleep**

**HONECETV — To awaken**

**YVHIKETV — To sing**

**ESKETV — To drink**

**NORICETV — To cook**

**ISEMETV — To give**

**TVCETV — To cut**

**NESETV — To buy**

**WIYETV — To sell**

**EMMERRETV — To feel sorry for**

**ONVYETV — To tell**

**HAYETV — To build**

**OMETV — To be**

**HIYOMETV — To happen**

**MECETV — To do**

**OCETV — To have**

**HVLVTETV — To hold**

K E H O V T E C E N N O H V L V T E

I V A M S V V S T E C U N V T V V Y

S H Y E K T T I H V L V T E T V T V

E K E T E V E V V H E E Y E V V Y C

E T T V Y S C T V T Y V R T T K V E

M V V M E E E E E I N E E E I T T A

E T N N V Y N K W O M C K H E C H T

T E T C H S O S S M I T V C V I V T

V K S V I A H E E M E Y O T V R T V

E I N O C R T T E L T T L E T K E W

V V E E E E O E M M E R R E T V P V

T Y V T E C T N U R I C I T V T M M

E V E V V O N V E T V T E C I R O N

M C T M T V N U C E T V E V V Y H E

O Y Y E E Y V H I K E T V T E V C E

O V N V M V N V E N E S E T V E S V

Y N H R O E E M E C C C I S E M E V

I O E E Y M S A W E E V T E K S A T

H T E Y I W O I C M V E S K E T V T

V T V E H T E T O V N T T V E E T M

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Attention MCN candidates!

As our election nears, please be aware of the absentee ballot deadlines as you mail out your fliers and brochures to those of us that vote absentee.

It does you no good when we receive your information either on or after the date our ballot needs to be in the hands of the election board.

Mvto and good luck to all the candidates!

— Richard Beaver

## TCIC YOUTH CAMP SET FOR AUG. 3-8

TULSA, Okla. — The Tulsa Creek Indian Community has set a weeklong youth ages 7-13 camp for Aug. 3-8.

The camp will end with a parent day cookout. Come join and make new friends.

Participants must live within TCIC boundaries and parents/guardians should be a TCIC member. If they are not, they may join.

For more information call: 918-298-2464.

## FAMILY REUNION SET FOR SEPT. 7

HENRYETTA, Okla. — The Marshall family reunion is set for Sept. 7 from 12-3 p.m. at Nichols Park in Henryetta. Bring a door prize and picnic items. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be served.

For more information, call Judy Montiel at: 918-752-5602.

## TCIC OFFICER ELECTION SET FOR SEPT. 17

TULSA, Okla. — The Tulsa Creek Indian Community has set an officer election Sept. 17 from 6-8 p.m. for the positions of: vice-chairman, secretary/treasurer and sergeant-at-arms. Deadline for letters of intent stating the position you are seeking and \$20 for a background check are due Aug. 27, by 5 p.m.

For more information call Roman Powell at: 918-298-2464.

## MCN Bar Association announces officer elections

MCNBA/Media Release

**WHAT:** Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bar Association Meeting and Election of Officers

**WHEN:** Monday, Aug. 17, 2015, starting promptly at 6 p.m. CST

**WHO:** All MCNBA members in good standing

**WHERE:** Mound Building auditorium, MCN Tribal Complex, Okmulgee

**WHY:** To elect MCNBA officers and vote on accepting proposed by-laws

**INFO:** Bar association members must be in good standing and physically present at the meeting to nominate or vote. Proxy voting will not be accepted. Nominations will be taken from the general membership at the beginning of the meeting for three officer positions: president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer.

Candidates must receive greater than 50 percent of the votes cast for their nominated position to be declared the winner. If more than two candidates are nominated from the same position, the two candidates receiving the most votes for that position will immediately participate in a subsequent run-off election that evening to determine the winner.

Notice of the election results from Aug. 17 will be published in the 'Muscogee Nation News' and posted online at: [www.creeksupremecourt.com](http://www.creeksupremecourt.com). Proposed by-laws may also be viewed on the MCN Supreme Court website under the Bar Association tab.

For more information call: 918-758-1439.

## MCN staff participates in fundraiser



Submission

Team Pacemaker/Release

This past May, friends and members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Distribution Program staff had the opportunity to participate in the Okmulgee Relay for Life event under the team name of Pacemakers.

Relay for Life is a fundraising event that is sponsored by the American Cancer Society with all proceeds going towards cancer awareness and research.

Before and during the event, Team Pacemakers did several fundraisers with the goal of raising \$1,000.

The final total for the team

was \$2,000. One of the many highlights of fundraising was an Indian Taco Sale hosted by Newtown United Methodist Church and a raffle drawing for a Native American flute.

MCN Realty Department's very own Danielle Moss was the lucky winner of the flute.

Mrs. Moss was presented the flute by a few members of Team Pacemakers.

Team Pacemakers wanted to present the flute to Mrs. Moss in a way that would help promote the Relay for Life Event and with the hopes that more people would want to participate in a cause that has affected many lives.



# 2015 Muscogee (Creek) Nation election candidates

#MCNVOTE2015 — Primary: Sept. 19 / General Nov. 2

## MCN principal chief candidates

### James Floyd Principal Chief

**Clan:** Wind  
**Tribal Town:** Koweta  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Tvlahasse/Wvkokaye  
**Education/Experience:** Master’s degree, post-masters certifications, managed \$2 billion budget, 9500 employees — Integrity - Top Secret Security Clearance —Teamwork - established IHS/VA sharing agreements — Innovation - Created VA/ tribal reimbursement and telehealth programs



**Platform:** While establishing successful programs for tribes nationally, my heart remained here, hoping to return to serve our tribe. I have acquired unique skills to better utilize current investments and improve efficiency of service delivery, with full financial and personnel accountability, through 35 years senior executive expertise with Veterans Health, IHS and MCN. Not accepting donations - just your vote. MVTO.

**Contact information:** 918-671-7008, Floyd2015.com

### Adam Jones III Principal Chief

**Clan:** Bear  
**Tribal Town:** Koweta  
**Church:** Little Coweta Indian Baptist  
**Education/Experience:** Associate degree in business, owner Jones Construction and current McIntosh District Council representative. Eight years National Council



**Platform:** I am 44, married 14 years to my wife, Amanda. We have five children and raise them in Stidham. This has given me insight to make needed changes. Areas include healthcare, economic development and education. I seek to provide our children with a secure future and become self-reliant. I will work hard for you, because all our children depend on it. You can’t have change by adding more of the same. MVTO!

### David Nichols Principal Chief

**Clan:** Wotko (Racoon)  
**Tribal Town:** Tukupvtce  
**Church:** Salt Creek United Indian Methodist  
**Education/Experience:** High school/20 years National Council representative



**Platform:** My platform is clear. I will represent our Nation in a manner that brings pride upon us all. I will focus resources on the health, education, housing and the overall welfare of each citizen. I will bring financial accountability to the business practices of our Nation and ensure the business development will engage in benefits of our Nation’s citizens. To each action I take as principal chief, I will ask myself ‘would the elders and the veterans be proud of this action?’ MVTO.

### MNN candidate profile disclaimer

All candidate profiles are placed in alphabetical order by last name as written by the candidates and do not necessarily reflect the views of the 'Muscogee Nation News.' The profiles were loosely edited for spelling, grammar, length and Associated Press style. **The following release ran on either pages one or two of the June 15, July 1 and July 15 editions of the 'Muscogee Nation News'** as well as other media outlets to inform all candidates of the rules before the filing period. These rules were strictly adhered to with no exceptions: 'MNN staff will be on-hand during registration at the Tribal Conference Room on the MCN Tribal Complex in Okmulgee to take photos and workstations will be set up for those filing to fill out or submit their **100 total word limit** bios. **No information will be changed after candidates leave the polling area and photo submissions/retakes will not be allowed. Portraits cannot be used for candidates' campaign material. Word limits must be strictly adhered to and will be cut at staff discretion if they go beyond the amount allotted.**'  
Those with questions or concerns may contact MNN Editor Sterling Cosper at: 918-732-7697 or [scosper@mcn-nsn.gov](mailto:scosper@mcn-nsn.gov) or Mvskoke Media Director Christina Good Voice at: 918-732-7630 or [cgoodvoice@mcn-nsn.gov](mailto:cgoodvoice@mcn-nsn.gov).

### George Tiger Principal Chief

**Clan:** HOTVLE (Wind)  
**Tribal Town:** O’CE VPOFV (Hickory Ground)  
**Church:** Yardeka Indian Baptist  
**Ceremonial Ground:** O’CE VPOFV (Hickory Ground)  
**Education/Experience:** Morris HS, Haskell Indian Junior College, NSU, Honorary Doctorate – Bacone, Multi-term National Council member, current principal chief, first language and fluent Mvskoke speaker

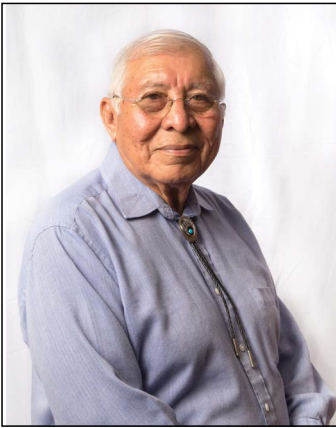


**Platform:** Reflects the traditions, culture and language needs of our most valuable and precious resource – our tribal citizens. Increase the wealth of our Nation by expanding opportunities for our citizens, keeping healthcare, education and housing as top priorities and promoting positive economic progress. MVSOKKE ETVLWV’VLKE HESAKETV-MESE OHMERRVS! (May God continue to bless the Muscogee (Creek) Nation!)

### Thomas Yahola Principal Chief

**Platform:** The responsibility of a principal chief is to exhibit integrity, transparency and accountability in caring for his people.

Today that is maintaining and improving health, education, and a higher standard of living for his people. Being a chief, he must set the example for others to follow. With your vote, this is my pledge to you.



The above listed characteristics have been my lifetime foundation. They were formed by my traditional upbringing, discipline gained in military service and knowledge gained through education and work experiences. I sincerely request your vote for principal chief, MVTO.

.....

## MCN National Council Seat A candidates

### Shirlene M. Ade Tukvpvtce District

**Clan:** Katcvlke  
**Tribal Town:** Cheyaha  
**Church:** Many Springs Baptist  
**Education/Experience:** Employed 25 years federal government. I worked for IHS, Tinker AFB, Department of the Army (McAlester Army Ammunitions Plant) retired in 2005, two years early to work and serve Creek citizens more effectively. Mother: Elizabeth Narcomey, Holdenville. Father: Frank Lewis, Eufaula.

**Platform:** We have a challenge to face our future addressing the needs of our Creek Citizens in a modern setting, through innovative and technological means, but it must remain essentially Muskoke Etlwv. To accomplish this, our government must remain IN an OF our culture and IN and OF our people.

### Samuel Scott Alexander Tulsa District

**Clan:** Eco  
**Tribal Town:** Thlopthlocco  
**Church:** Member of Montesoma Indian Baptist  
**Education/Experience:** Lives in Broken Arrow. A graduate of Northeastern State College, he manages his CPA practice located in Wagoner. First confirmed tax commissioner (tribal defendant) during tobacco litigation with Oklahoma, Gaming Operations Authority Board chair when bingo halls converted into casinos, National Council representative for eight years, speaker in 2012-2013, three daughters, two granddaughters, senior athlete, running and basketball.



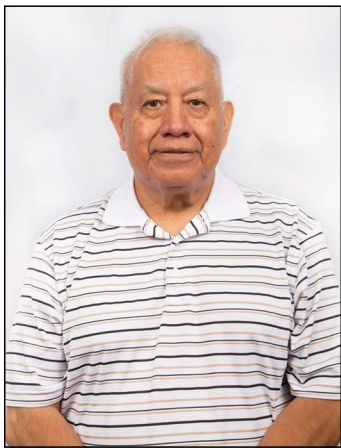
**Platform:** His candidacy for National Council representative offers unmatched financial experience, vast tribal background and candor to the concerned voter.



# 2015 Muscogee (Creek) Nation election candidates

## Wilson Bear McIntosh District

**Clan:** Bear  
**Tribal Town:** Eufaula-Canadian  
**Church:** Protestant  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Eufaulagee  
**Education/Experience:** B.S. Psychology/  
Sociology



**Platform:** Health, education, welfare, economic development for smaller communities that will create jobs, Social Service and Elderly Housing will play a big part as your representative.

## Del Vince Beaver Okmulgee District

**Ceremonial Ground:** New Tulsa  
**Clan:** Aktvkculke  
**Church:** New Beginnings Baptist  
**Education/Experience:** Master of Science, industrial management, Bachelor of Science, environmental management, ordained minister, 15 years employment in tribal government, 10 years serving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I currently serve as manager of the Environmental Services Department for the tribe and I am honored to work alongside dedicated professionals who continually protect the tribe’s resources.



**Platform:** Resource management and fiscal responsibility — tribal resource protection and fiscal responsibility shall remain my steadfast goal as I continue to serve the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

## Tony Bell Creek District

**Church:** Jenks United Methodist  
**Education/Experience:** Sapulpa High School, OSU Okmulgee, 30 Years in business, I live in Kiefer, Okla., with my wife of 32 years. I have over 20 years of business experience with 10 of those as an executive director for a large retail organization.



**Platform:** Our Nation has become a large employer in our state and influential in our communities. I believe my experience in business and my reputation for honesty and integrity is crucial to all positions within the tribe for our continued growth and prosperity for all tribal members.

**Contact information:** Facebook — Tony Bell, 918-321-9511

## Alvin L. Bucktrot Tulsa District

**Clan:** Tiger  
**Tribal Town:** Hickory Ground, Sand Creek  
**Education/Experience:** Associate in Applied Science - Okmulgee Tech; U.S. Army National Guard – Water purification specialist, over 35 years journeyman plumber in private, public and government sectors



**Platform:** It doesn’t take a rocket scientist to follow the Constitution. If elected, my mission will be to progress and excel citizens to become self-sufficient and eradicating barriers that lead to poverty. Every vote I make will ask, “Will this benefit the ENTIRE MCN?” Whether you’re a Christian, traditionalist, or non-believer, I urge you to vote.

## Hazel A. (Grace) Bunner Okmulgee District

**Clan:** Bird  
**Tribal Town:** Thlopthlocco  
**Church:** Thlopthlocco Methodist  
**Education/Experience:** Psychology/  
Sociology, tribal government, research and development, real estate



**Platform:** I am a mother, grandmother and the former wife of a Vietnam veteran. At this time in our Nation’s history, we need to confront and constructively deal with the issues associated with individual and tribally owned lands, our Native veterans, gender equality in the workplace and the least promoted age group, 35-53. As a candidate, I will strive to promote legislation that will reflect the highest public good and not for one individual, business or department.

## Franklin Joseph Coachman Okfuskee District

**Clan:** Nokosulke (Bear Clan)  
**Tribal Town:** Etlwlv Rakko (Big Town)  
**Church:** Arbeka United Methodist  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Green Leaf  
**Education:** Associate Degree in Science  
Haskell University, Studies at Seminole State College and Oklahoma Baptist University



**Platform:** As your representative, I will stay committed to making our Nation a stronger one, always looking for the future. I have been honored to serve you as your full-time Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council representative and would like to continue serving in this position with the help of your vote. BANK ON FRANK.

## Arlene Harjo Davis Okfuskee District

**Clan:** Sweet Potato  
**Tribal Town:** Tukvpttce  
**Church:** Wewoka United Methodist  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Alabama  
**Education/Experience:** Medical field 34 years, with MCN Department of Health nine years, last five years with the Tobacco Prevention Program



**Platform:** Health, education and welfare.

## Johnnie (Chalakee) Greene Wagoner, Rogers, Mayes District

**Clan:** Wind  
**Tribal Town:** Kialegee  
**Church:** Springtown United Methodist  
**Education:** Coweta Schools, Haskell Institute, Tulsa Business School



**Platform:** I will continue to be an advocate for providing quality health care and housing for our elders. A high priority is also helping our youth continue their education through Higher Education programs and supporting the College of the Muscogee Nation. I also believe preserving our language and culture is imperative in all our communities. First and foremost, I will honor the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution and law.



# 2015 Muscogee (Creek) Nation election candidates

## Nelson Scott Harjo Okmulgee District

**Clan:** Wind  
**Tribal Town:** Alabama Quasarty  
**Church:** Tekopvtce  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Alabama  
**Education:** Associates applied science



**Platform:** Community is what we are, a group of people who live together with a shared culture and heritage. Our communities together form the Mvskoke Nation. Using demographics and statistics allow us to gain insight to work with communities better through business, healthcare and social programs. Citizens are the trunk of the tree of the Mvskoke Nation. Every community today, every community in the future, will need to be strong and self-sufficient in order for us to grow and flourish as a Nation.

## Randall Darrin Hicks Okfuskee District

**Clan:** Raccoon  
**Tribal Town:** Ufala  
**Church:** Buckeye Baptist  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Okfuskee



**Education/Experience:** Mason Public School, OSU-Okmulgee, Cherokee Nation Head Start-Transportation training specialist, Muscogee (Creek) Nation-Community Research and Development, MCN Gaming-general manager, Seminole Nation Gaming Enterprise-marketing director and general manager

**Platform:** If elected as the National Council representative of the “Great Muscogee Nation,” I plan to utilize my work experience and education to help our tribe/communities to progress forward. It is time for CHANGE! I plan to focus on our healthcare, economic development, education and culture. With your help, we can make a difference! MVTO.

## David W. Hill Creek District

**Clan:** Beaver (Echaswv)  
**Tribal Town:** New Tulsa  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Okfuskee  
**Education/Experience:** Depew H.S., Tulsa Air Park, employed in the Aviation Industry for NORDAM 26 years. Supervisor and serving on the College Program Advisory Committee (Spartan College of Aeronautics & Technology, three years.)



**Platform:** I am looking forward to serving the citizens of Muscogee (Creek) Nation the next four years and am hopeful that we can have a united government that can work together to bring industry and economic development to our Nation so that we may prosper to meet the health, education and welfare needs of our Nation.

## Robert Hufft Tulsa District

**Clan:** Deer  
**Church:** Asbury Methodist  
**Education/Experience:** Bachelors degree from Oklahoma State University with 30 years of corporate experience, over 20 years as controller for a Tulsa company and over 12 years of tribal government experience. I have served as ex-officio to the Gaming Authority Board and served as second speaker to the National Council as well as served on various committees.



**Platform:** I believe it’s time for the Nation to re-evaluate our resources and assets to provide a plan to our citizens on how to utilize those assets to meet the needs of the citizens and prepare for our future.

## Timothy A. Jackson, Jr. Wagoner District

**Clan:** Bird  
**Tribal Town:** Weogufkee  
**Church:** First Baptist of Coweta  
**Education/Experience:** Bachelor of Science in engineering technology from Oklahoma State University; Construction management – project engineer and small business owner – Narcomey Designs, certified associate constructor of the American Institute, OSU Construction Management Advisory Board member, Associated General Contractor member, Steering Committee member of the Construction Leadership Council



**Platform:** My purpose is to serve our people, give the government back to our people and gather input from the people for our Nation’s future. I will inform our people with complete transparency.

**Contact information:** 918-344-1949, narcomeydesigns@gmail.com, www.facebook.com/ElectTJackson

## David Jimboy Tukvpvtce District

**Tribal Town:** Tulmochussee (inactive)  
**Church:** Methodist  
**Education/Experience:** Okemah High School, Military 1973-1975, USMC. 3rd Marine Divison 1st Amtrac Bn., Evacuation Operation-Vietnam; National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. Honorable Discharge. Chickasaw Nation Health System healthcare security officer 16 years. Served Holdenville Indian Community as vice-chairperson five years and now chairperson.



**Platform:** I believe as a member of my community, we need to work as a team. Birthplace - Sapulpa; Father -William (Bill) Jimboy, Mother-Helen (Harjo) Jimboy; Home - Holdenville. Married to Mrs. Jensie Lee (Powell) Jimboy 35 Years. Father five children, grandfather 14 children, two great-grandchildren.

## Rodney Josie Tulsa District

**Clan:** Deer  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Weogvfke/Muddy Waters  
**Education/Experience:** A.S. business administration, 13 years experience NAHASDA, HUD, ONAP and other housing programs, 10 years experience as environmental professional, eight years experience historic/cultural preservation, 15 years experience construction budgeting/contracts.



**Platform:** I believe Muscogee (Creek) Nation should be seeking ways to improve the quality of life for all of our citizens. If given the opportunity, I will use my working experience, as well as a strong desire to implement this belief. Other issues of interest are: well-being for the elderly, education, cultural preservation, youth services and improved emergency assistance.

## Edwin Marshall Tukvpvtce District

**Clan:** Bird  
**Tribal Town:** Tukvpvtce  
**Church:** Alabama Quassarte Indian Baptist  
**Ceremonial Ground:** Tukvpvtce (inactive)  
**Education/Experience:** Bachelor of social work, ECU. Experience spanning four administrations - Election Board chair, National Council representative, division director, program manager, Constitution Convention vice-chair and chief of staff.



**Platform:** Citizens indicate a desire to move forward as MCN has the potential for. Political contention and lack of citizen inclusion (along with selective distribution of resources) has caused the majority to become indifferent and disinterested as evidenced by voter apathy. I won’t be defined by special interest or politicians and vow to keep the citizens’ will as my priority.



# 2015 Muscogee (Creek) Nation election candidates

## ***Sandra Peters*** ***Okmulgee District***

**Clan:** Ancient Mother Clan Wind

**Tribal Town:** Arbeka-Tulladega

**Church:** Trinity Baptist

**Ceremonial Ground:** Arbeka

**Education/Experience:** B.A. art education, Master's study-educational psychology and theological studies, past representative, tribal administration leadership in economic development



**Platform:** We are a strong Nation, having passed through wars, separation and despair. We negotiate business on a corporate level acquiring for economic profit-driven aspirations from our resources, our intellect, utilizing tribal sovereignty. We uphold the sacred trust at our ceremonial grounds and churches, our language a testimony to our creator God. I am running on the belief in what is good, honest and right. My heart is for the growth of MCN. MVTO.

## ***Tom O. Pickering*** ***McIntosh District***

**Clan:** Sweet Potato

**Tribal Town:** Hichiti

**Church:** West Eufaula Indian Missionary Baptist

**Education/Experience:** OSUIT - 17 years, National Council, chairman Tribal Affairs Committee and Community Service Committee, Health Board member, chairman of Roads Committee and Economic Development Committee, seven years community chairman, five years community board member



**Platform:** Councilmen should be a visionary and must listen to the citizens to make decisions. I believe in planning for the future needs of our people and ensure funds will be available for them. We need to protect our sovereignty, people and employees. We must invest in our young and find ways to help our elderly. MVTO!

**Contact information:** 918-618-2015

## ***Darrell Proctor*** ***McIntosh District***

**Clan:** Deer "ECOVLKE"

**Church:** Weogufkee Missionary Indian Baptist

**Education/Experience:** Associates Degree in computer integrated systems service, OSUIT, National Council representative from 2008-2015; instrumentation technician in manufacturing and power utilities - 29 years. Deacon, Sunday school director and church treasurer. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your McIntosh District representative. I respectfully ask for your voting support. MVTO.

Wife of 25 years, Robin; daughters, Kelsey and Amberly; son, Darrell II; mother, Minnie (Proctor) Cannon; grandparents, the late Andy and Judy (Lasley) Proctor.



## ***Sharon Wyatt Britt Rose*** ***McIntosh District***

**Clan:** Bear

**Tribal Town:** Arbeka/Nuyuka

**Ceremonial Ground:** Arbeka

**Education/Experience:** Graduated from Graham, Weleetka 1980, graduated from Oklahoma School of Business in Tulsa, 1981, legal secretarial degree, SHIP counselor, CAC counselor for the Affordable Care Act. Muscogee (Creek) Nation 5-2006 to present contract health coordinator/patient benefits coordinator.

**Platform:** I will strive to bring accountability to our citizens and strive to ensure that all employees are supported indulgently. I will work for the citizens that are in and out of our jurisdiction to the fullest. Health/education/tribal and housing will be a priority. MVTO.



## ***Rufus Scott*** ***Tukvptce District***

**Clan:** Wind

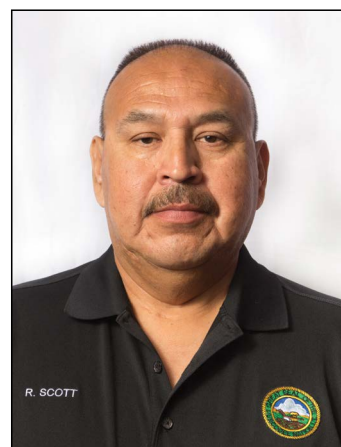
**Tribal Town:** Alabama

**Church:** Alabama Baptist

**Ceremonial Ground:** Alabama

**Education/Experience:** U.S. Army Military Police Academy, Council on Law Enforcement Education Training, Wetumka Board of Education 18 years, board president 16 Years

**Platform:** I have been married to my wife Judith for 27 years. We have a daughter, Kristi and a son Brad, a grandson, Oskewvske and a granddaughter Peyton. I am Lighthorseman and also a member of the Mvskoche Nation Honor, serving as treasurer for 17 years. I would like to bring back fairness to all citizens and not a chosen few. I will be committed and listen to you the citizen.



## ***Pearl (Chalakee) Thomas*** ***Okmulgee District***

**Clan:** Nokose

**Tribal Town:** Cheyaha

**Church:** Honey Creek UMC

**Education/Experience:** BS Education, Northeastern State University- retired from Muscogee (Creek) Nation after 18 years, National Council representative for four years and served on Council committees - Community Services and Cultural Committee and Health, Education and Welfare Committee.

**Platform:** Moving the Nation forward while staying loyal to the citizens and traditions. I promise to represent the citizens to the very best of my ability so that our Nation will have a bright and prosperous future for our children and grandchildren.



## ***'Carol' Eugenia Tiger*** ***Okfuskee District***

**Clan:** Eco

**Tribal Town:** Fishpond

**Church:** Springfield UMC

**Education/Experience:** High school - Long Beach California, Anchor Glass Container 34 years, Creek Nation Election Board 16 years

**Platform:** My job as your Council representative would be to work for you. All community needs are important to me-church, ceremonial and community groups. I would like to see our Nation move forward and set higher standards to serve our people. From our youth to our elders, we can focus on the important issues and support one another. If elected, I would proudly serve you!

**Contact information:** Cell - 918-716-8267, Hompps.ci@gmail.com, Facebook: Vote Carol Tiger Okfuskee



## ***Eleanor 'Irene' Van Buskirk*** ***Tulsa District***

**Clan:** Wind

**Tribal Town:** Kvncvte

**Church:** Newtown Methodist

**Education/Experience:** Bachelor Of Business Administration. Background: outpatient services (alcoholism and drug abuse); financial analyst (small business development), entrepreneurial trainer.

**Platform:** I live in Glenpool and was born to Esther (Simmers) and Elmer Van Woudenberg. Attend services for world-wide leaders. Children: Chasilee, Josiah and Elijah; six grandchildren: Aubree, Tristan, Jeffery, Kristie, Elizabeth and Zay. I will provide services with the best delivery possible with God's blessings. MVTO!

**Contact information:** 918-946-6542, eiwhitebird@gmail.com, Facebook-Elect Eleanor Irene Van Buskirk





# 2015 Muscogee (Creek) Nation election candidates

## Sam ‘Gene’ Whitlow Tukvptce District

**Clan:** Bird  
**Tribal Town:** Hickory Ground  
**Church:** Thewarle Baptist, member, deacon

**Education/Experience:** Dustin HS, Haskell Institute, building construction; Oklahoma State Tech, building technology, diploma, U.S. Army, Honorable Discharge (1967) MCN Housing Authority director, tribal compliance officer. Knowledge of federal programs in finance and grant implementation. Letter carrier USPO; owned and operated construction companies. Fluent Mvskoke speaker - Retired

**Platform:** I have two daughters, three sons and live in Dustin. Tribal programs are for the people. We are entrusted to respectfully administer programs for their betterment and for continual improvement. Please support me for your representative. MVTO.



## Grover Wind Okmulgee District

**Tribal Town:** Kvsehtv  
**Clan:** Nokosvlke

**Education/Experience:** High Springs Baptist Church, Okemah and ordained minister at New Beginnings Church, Henryetta. Graduate of Okemah High School (1969); college hours from Tulsa Community College and University of Tulsa. Veteran of the U.S. Air Force-Honorable Discharge.

**Platform:** Planned progress - I am an advocate for tribal enterprise development that will broaden our economic base. Education - I strongly support the development of educational programs, especially funding for scholarships for citizens who are working on degrees or obtaining technical training. Senior citizens - Funding for meals, transportation and activities for seniors in need. Employee Development - Provide opportunities to upgrade skills.



## Dean Williams Okmulgee District

**Clan:** Bird  
**Church:** Baptist

**Education/Experience:** Henryetta High School, OSU Associate Degree, construction technology. Worked 22 years within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, seven years as GSA/Facilities manager providing assistance to the departments and communities of MCN.

**Platform:** Help build a stronger Nation. My goal is to ensure that all appropriations legislation is for the benefit of the citizens and the Nation. I would like to implement more funding for education, elders and the preservation of our culture. All Mvskoke people deserve a tribal government they can be proud of.



## Lena Wind Okfuskee District

**Clan:** Bear  
**Tribal Town:** Alabama  
**Church:** New Beginnings Henryetta

**Education/Experience:** B.A.ED., NSU, Tahlequah; M.S. ED., OCU, Oklahoma City; 10 years National Council representative, 21 years tribal programs, Okemah Indian Community chair, founding member of the MCN Scholarship Foundation, member of the MCN Health Board, Member of the OIC Economic, P.S. teacher 12 years.

**Platform:** Lifelong resident of the Muscogee Nation. There is work needed to address issues with our child welfare. Codes need to be changed that will give extended protection for our children.




No challengers filed to face incumbents, Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, Muskogee District Rep. Mose ‘Pete’ Beaver and MCN Second Chief Louis Hicks, which gives them an immediate victory per the MCN Election Board.

2015

PRINCIPAL CHIEF  
CANDIDATE  
FORUM

10AM | AUGUST 15 | MVSKOKE DOME | OKMULGEE, OK

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